

Message Text

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P 132139Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652, GDS

TAGS: AAUD, EG

SUBJECT: CAIRO INSPECTION

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SUTTERLIN

REF: CAIRO 2909

1. THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF EMBASSY CAIRO WHICH RAISE QUESTIONS AS TO THE DESIRABILITY OF AN INSPECTION AT THIS JUNCTURE ARE UNDERSTOOD. WE DO NOT WISH TO COMPLICATE YOUR PROBLEMS AT THIS CRITICAL TIME. I WISH, THOUGH, TO GIVE YOU THE BACKGROUND OF THE INSPECTION AND GET YOUR REACTION TO A POSSIBLE PROCEDURE THAT HAS OCCURRED TO US.

2. INSPECTION TEAM SCHEDULED TO VISIT CAIRO WILL INSPECT ARABIAN PENINSULA POSTS AND WRITE A CONSOLIDATED "CONDUCT-OF-RELATIONS" INSPECTION REPORT ON NEA/ARP AND NEA/EGY COUNTRY DIRECTORATES AND CORRESPONDING FOREIGN SERVICE POSTS (WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF CAIRO, DEPENDING ON YOUR RESPONSE TO THIS TELEGRAM). FOLLOWING THAT, TEAM WILL INSPECT NEA BUREAU DURING SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER PERIOD. GIVEN IMPORTANCE OF CAIRO TO THE BUREAU, IT OBVIOUSLY WOULD BE EXTREMELY USEFUL FROM INSPECTION VIEWPOINT IF INSPECTORS

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COULD AT LEAST CONSULT IN CAIRO A FEW DAYS.

3. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES I WOULD LIKE TO PUT FORWARD

THE IDEA OF A MODIFIED INSPECTORS' VISIT WITH NO SPECIAL PREPARATION REQUIRED IN CAIRO AND ONLY MINIMAL SECRETARIAL HELP. TEAM WOULD NOT EXPECT POST TO HAVE PREPARED POST MEMORANDUM OR ASSEMBLED SPECIAL REFERENCE FILES. WHILE A PRIOR REVIEW OF INSPECTION QUESTIONNAIRE BY APPROPRIATE EMBASSY STAFF WOULD BE DESIRABLE, NO WRITTEN RESPONSES WOULD BE NECESSARY.

4. THIS WOULD PERMIT TEAM TO INCLUDE DIRECT OBSERVATION AND CONSULTATION IN CAIRO IN CONSIDERING AND MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS ON NEA'S WORK OVERALL. THE INSPECTORS WOULD TAKE A LOOK AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE SITUATION AND SEEK TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE EITHER ON THE SPOT OR IN FOLLOW UP CONSULTATION IN THE DEPARTMENT ON DIFFICULTIES WHICH MAY EXIST IN THIS PERIOD OF RAPID GROWTH FOR THE EMBASSY. IT WOULD ALSO PREPARE EFFICIENCY REPORTS ON STAFF MEMBERS TO THE EXTENT FEASIBLE.

5. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR EARLY VIEWS ON SUCH A MODIFIED INSPECTION TO LAST FROM JUNE 4 TO 12. I SHOULD ADD THAT CONDUCT-OF-RELATIONS INSPECTION SCHEDULES ARE QUITE TIGHT AND DIFFICULT TO REARRANGE. AS A RESULT, NEXT OPPORTUNITY FOR INSPECTION OF CAIRO IS LIKELY TO BE EARLY 1976. RUSH

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